

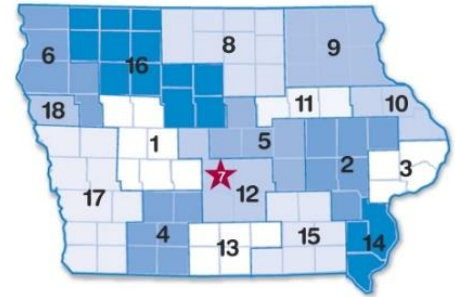


IOWA COMMUNITY ACTION ASSOCIATION

Helping People. Changing Lives.

Iowa Network of Community Action Agencies Summary of One Time Request for Infrastructure Improvement Funding 2017

Seventeen Community Action Agencies (CAA) provide services to individuals and families with low income in all 99 Iowa counties. In FFY 2015, 325,483 Iowans received assistance. The CAAs employ over 2,900 staff who are working and living in all 99 counties.



The CAAs coordinate local community efforts that include employment, education, child care, housing, self-sufficiency, health, and emergency services. Key services include: Head Start programs, Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Weatherization Assistance Program, Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children), Individual Development Accounts, Family Development and Self-Sufficiency Program, Child Care Resource and Referral, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

The CAAs are governed by local boards comprised equally of elected officials, private sector representatives, and low-income citizens. In FFY 2015, 333 citizens volunteered and served on the seventeen Iowa CAA governing boards. In our efforts to alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty, CAAs recruited and partnered with over 16,000 volunteers- contributing over 404,000 hours of service and support.

Funds from grants/contracts rarely provide for infrastructure needs such as computers, data systems, building repairs/maintenance, construction, and equipment. Due to this reality, the network of agencies is asking the State of Iowa for \$1.8 million to be used to make infrastructure improvements to the facilities.

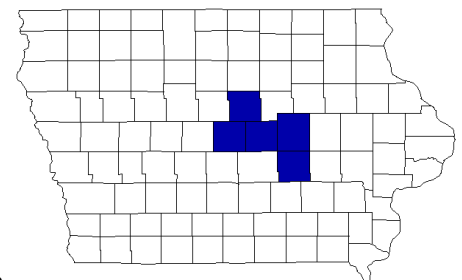
Below is a brief summary from each CAA and Iowa Community Action Association describing the infrastructure changes the agency will make with a \$100,000 investment from the State of Iowa:

Mid-Iowa Community Action

Serving: Hardin, Story, Marshall, Tama, and Poweshiek Counties

Mid-Iowa Community Action currently has several locations in Marshalltown. All of the spaces are problematic in that:

- They are too small to allow for growth in staffing and services
- Some are located in areas where the families cannot easily access
- Working across programs to bundle services and provide a more comprehensive approach is hampered by staff not being near each other and services provided at different locations



With an infrastructure allocation of \$100,000 coupled with the revenue generated through the sale of current properties, MICA could locate and renovate to a single site and bring all services under one roof. This would allow greater access to all services with increased ease for families. It would allow greater coordination and greater efficiency within our organization through the sharing of resources and would

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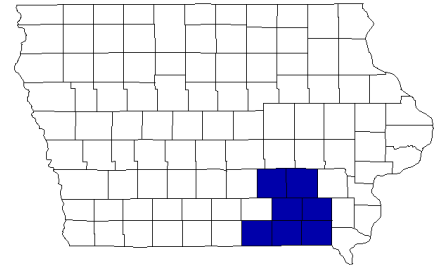
increase our ability to serve families in a more comprehensive manner. Ultimately, it would also allow us to expand services and increase staffing, creating more jobs in the community.

Sieda Community Action Agency

Serving: Mahaska, Keokuk, Wapello, Jefferson, Appanoose, Davis, and Van Buren Counties

Sieda Community Action Agency employs 130 staff members who deliver a wide variety of services to meet the needs of more than 15,000 individuals (nearly 7,000 households) striving to improve their lives and achieve economic security. An investment to upgrade and advance infrastructure would allow for improved ability to fulfill the organization's mission.

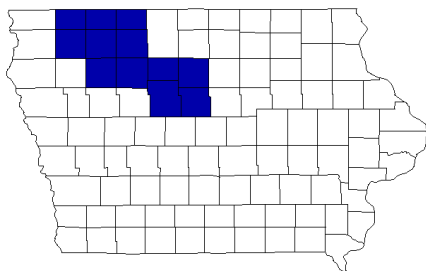
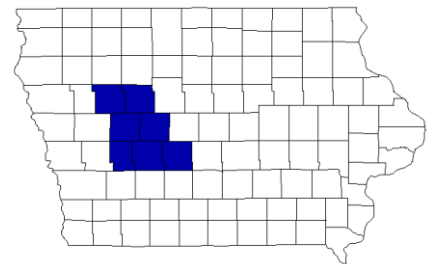
Sieda Community Action would invest approximately \$45,000 in the expansion of an agency-wide phone system. In late 2013, Sieda invested approximately \$35,000 in the purchase and installation of a new phone system in the Wapello County Resource Center and corporate offices. This proposed expansion would allow for the connection of the offices outside of Wapello County and our Behavioral Health Unit to the corporate system. Sieda would invest the remaining \$55,000 in improvements to office locations in Mahaska and Keokuk Counties.



New Opportunities

Serving: Sac, Calhoun, Carroll, Greene, Audubon, Guthrie, and Dallas Counties

New Opportunities currently has three computer servers that were purchased about six years. The life expectancy for a computer server is around five to six years. Now Opportunities would use \$30,000 of the appropriation to upgrade and replace the Information Technology situation. New Opportunities has 8 vehicles and on facility to house them. During the winter employees must run Each vehicle for 10-15 minutes prior to using them. New Opportunities needs a facility where all vehicles are parked inside. Estimated costs: \$70,000.



Upper Des Moines Opportunity (UDMO)

Serving: Osceola, Dickinson, Emmet, O'Brien, Clay, Palo Alto, Buena Vista, Pocahontas, Humboldt, Wright, Webster, and Hamilton Counties

An investment in infrastructure at UDMO would help cover some of the costs for the following projects (with estimated costs):

- Assist in the replacement of the HVAC systems in the Storm Lake Outreach Offices. \$15,000.00
- resurfacing parking and drive at Outreach offices in Pocahontas and Palo Alto Counties - \$15,000.00
- Enhancement of Outreach Office in Wright County including roofing, HVAC unit replacement, and office upgrades - \$42,000
- Purchase and upgrades of the Hamilton County Outreach Office in Webster City, including computer networking, and remodeling of bathroom and storage area - \$75,000.00
- Exterior enhancements to the UDMO central office - \$10,000
- Signage at all of our facilities through the 12 counties - \$6,000

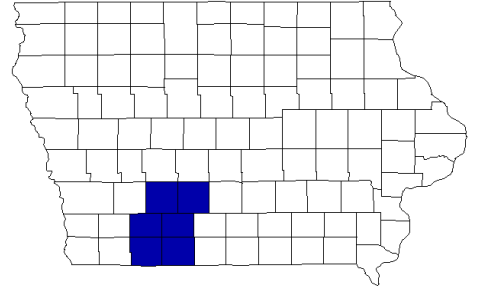
MATURA Action Corporation

Serving: Adair, Madison, Adams, Union, Taylor, and Ringgold Counties

MATURA Action Corp. has served 10,407 individuals and 3842 families in southwest Iowa and employ 84 staff members. The proposed allocation of \$100,000 would be used for the following projects;

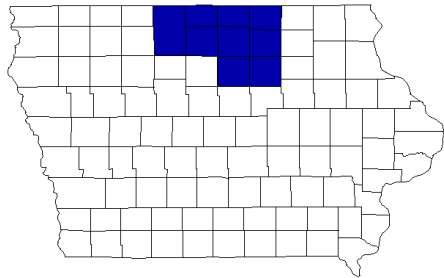
- Roof replacement for Central office building in Creston, \$47,620
- Updating phone system, \$15,286
- Replace driveway for Winterset location, \$18,000
- Remodel the area people use when applying for services at the Adair County office in Greenfield, \$10,200.00
- Upgrade the electrical system at Taylor County Outreach office in Bedford, \$8,894.00

These funds would provide a boost to the local economy by the utilization of local contractors for most of the work.



North Iowa Community Action Organization (NICA)

Serving: Kossuth, Winnebago, Worth, Mitchell, Hancock, Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, and Butler Counties



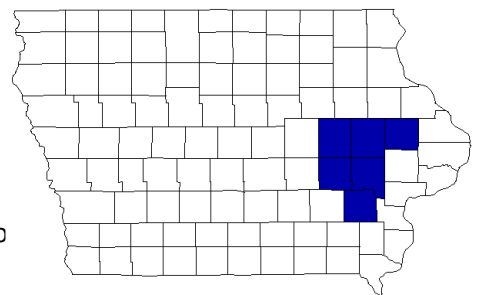
NICA needs a new centralized Data Center. NICA has a decentralized network in which four physical locations have their own operating systems and data. This system is no longer cost effective, efficient or capable of meeting anticipated compliance requirements. Once the Data Center is complete NICA will standardize networking services in order to connect all physical locations and ensure fault tolerant connections and sufficient speed for Internet access and systems operations. To date, NICA has installed dedicated fiber in ground to all four

locations but many activities are needed for the implementation plans. This includes hardware upgrade, Domain design and upgrade, ancillary security, migration of everything into the new environment. The entire process will provide NICA with a technology environment which will allow the agency to move into the future. The total cost of rebuilding the NICA computer network system is \$323,006. NICA would appreciate your financial support for a portion of our plan.

Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc. (HACAP)

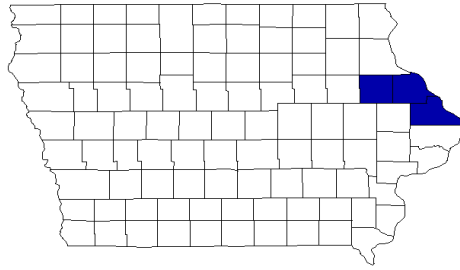
Serving: Benton, Linn, Jones, Iowa, Johnson, and Washington Counties

Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Inc. (HACAP) would use \$100,000 to purchase a refrigerated 26 foot truck for our Food Reservoir. HACAP's Food Reservoir, a member of Feeding America, the Nation's largest food bank, supplies food to 107 partner agencies in a seven county area in east central Iowa. The Food Reservoir has access to thousands of pounds of donated food from food manufacturers and retail partners. HACAP's partner agencies include food pantries, senior and child care centers and feeding programs that serve people in need of food. The purchase of this large vehicle would allow HACAP to pick up larger quantities of donated food more often and expands the capacity of the vehicle from less than 4 pallets of product to 12 pallets of product per load, making our trips more cost effective. Another benefit is that it allows HACAP's Food Reservoir to purchase larger quantities of fresh fruits and vegetables year round, increasing the nutritional value of the product that is available.



Operation: New View Community Action Agency

Serving: Delaware, Dubuque, and Jackson Counties



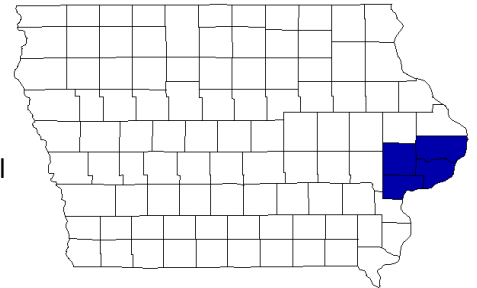
Operation: New View Community Action Agency employs 87 staff members and serves over 14,000 people in 8,000 households annually through a variety of programs in Dubuque, Delaware and Jackson Counties. With an infrastructure investment of \$100,000 the agency could accomplish the following to improve our services:

- New roof and parking lot paving at Dyersville Early Childhood Center - \$36,000
- Computer server, hardware, software and security enhancements - \$24,000
- Central Office Service Center Security and Accessibility Improvements (Dubuque) - \$18,000
- Delaware County Service Center Repairs and Improvements (Manchester) - \$13,000
- Jackson County Service Center Repairs and Improvements (Maquoketa) - \$ 9,000

Community Action of Eastern Iowa

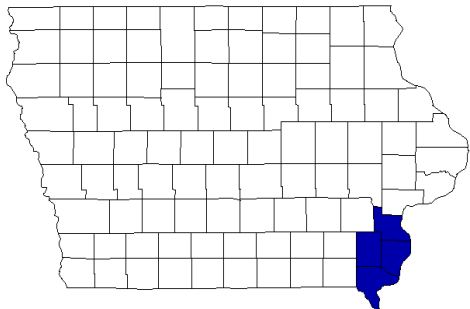
Serving: Cedar, Clinton, Muscatine, and Scott Counties

Community Action of Eastern Iowa is seeking to reduce ongoing operational costs in its Tipton and Clinton Head Start centers through the application of energy efficiency measures. The Clinton location houses four Head Start and two Early Head Start classrooms (86 children). At this center we would install geothermal heating and cooling, and would increase the insulation and energy efficiency. The Tipton location is home to a Head Start classroom (20 children) and a community outreach office. This location requires window replacements, insulation, and general efficiency upgrades. These upgrades would significantly reduce our ongoing operating costs for years to come.



Community Action of Southeast Iowa

Serving: Louisa, Henry, Des Moines, and Lee Counties



Community Action of Southeast Iowa serves a four county area. We employ 145 employees. Last year 14,462 individuals, which is 13% of the population, received assistance. The agency has five centers which have staff to assist clients. The Eichacker Center in Fort Madison, (Lee County) does not meet the needs of the community or the Head Start classrooms. There is no privacy for clients when they are applying for assistance. The building is a very old country style Church with a basement. The stairs to the basement are very steep and the children have

lunch and snacks there. Two other Head Start classrooms are located in an old mobile unit, which is on public school property. It is too small and inadequate for the children. Food for the children is transported from the Center to the mobile unit. Due to the condition of this building, the agency needs to find a new location for the Center and all four classrooms and \$65,000 would be used to help purchase or renovate another location. The phone system located at the Central Office in Burlington, has not been updated in over 15 years. The remaining \$35,000 is needed to replace the old system and would benefit all agency programs.

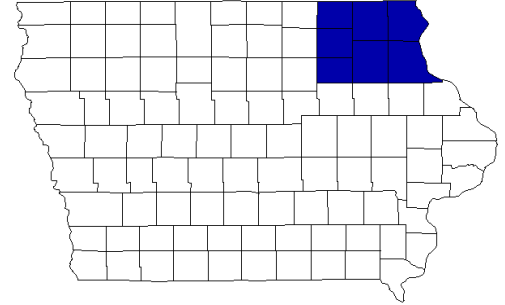
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Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation (NEICAC)

Serving: Howard, Chickasaw, Bremer, Winneshiek, Fayette, Allamakee, and Clayton Counties

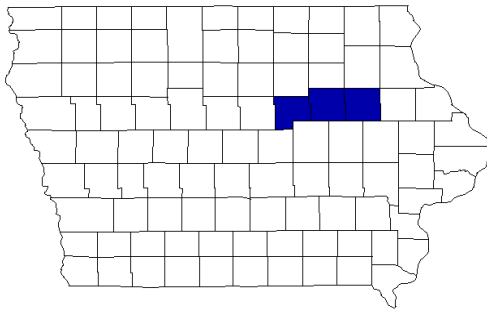
NEICAC has not secured funding to purchase budget and account software upgrade or replace our phone system that was purchased in 1999. The estimated cost to make these improvements is \$50,000.

NEICAC currently has a loan for the Ridgeway Duplex housing unit that houses profoundly handicapped individuals that require 24/7 assistance. The agency is not generating enough rent to meet expenses. A payment of \$50,000 would pay off the loan project would the project would generate enough revenue to cover expenses.



Operation Threshold (OT)

Serving: Grundy, Black Hawk, and Buchanan Counties



Operation Threshold has several projects that a state appropriation could support. First, OT would like to pay down the debt for the Central Office facility located in Black Hawk County. The old office was flooded in 2008 and OT built a building on the Human Services Campus in Waterloo. The funding that OT secured for the project did not fully cover the costs and OT was forced to borrow funds to cover the difference. Paying down that loan could allow agency funds to be used to support programming. Secondly, in order to minimize the costs for the Central Office facility, a portion of

the building is unfinished. OT would now like to use a portion of the funds to finish and equip the space. The third initiative would upgrade information technology equipment and software allowing a more streamlined communication and better meet increasing technological demands.

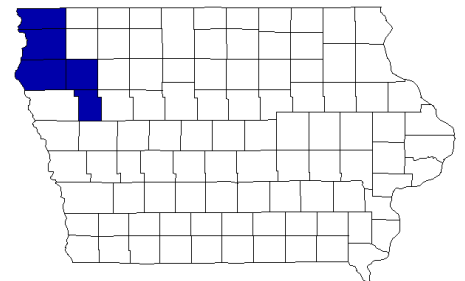
Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc.

Serving: Lyon, Plymouth, Cherokee, Sioux and Ida Counties

Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc. is a private non-profit Community Action Agency serving five counties in Northwest Iowa. A \$100,000.00 allocation to Mid-Sioux for infrastructure needs would be used for one/all of the following purposes:

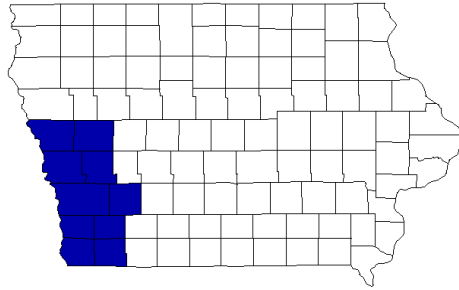
- Reduction of outstanding loans for building projects in Sioux Center and Cherokee.
- Updates to Head Start/Early Head Start playgrounds.
- Updates to outreach, head start and early head start centers.
- Renovation of the Remsen central office facility.
- Updates to the computer server and administrative computer systems.

Total infrastructure needs are estimated to be approximately \$500,000.00.






West Central Community Action (WCCA)

Serving: Manona, Crawford, Harrison, Shelby, Pottawattamie, Cass, Mills, Montgomery, Fremont, and Page Counties



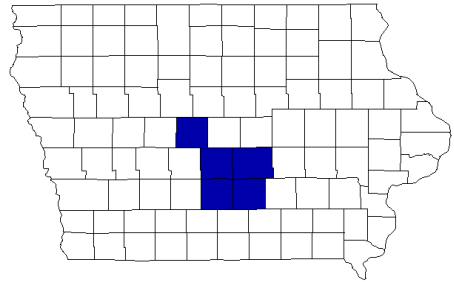
West Central Community Action has several unmet needs that a state appropriation could help resolve. This is a list of how WCCA would use the funds:

 Upgrade our Agency Server	\$50,000
 Purchase new phone system for the Administration Office	\$15,000
 Administration Building Improvements	\$35,000

IMPACT Community Action Partnership

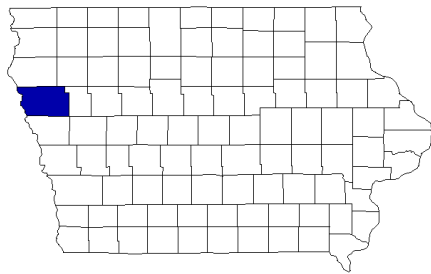
Serving: Boone, Polk, Jasper, Warren, and Marion Counties

IMPACT is looking for space to open an office in the southern portion of Des Moines. Renovation costs for a new office will exceed \$20,000 and securing these funds would provide IMPACT the opportunity to get a space ready to serve children and families with a limited income. IMPACT is supporting an statewide system that expands the number of trained staff that assist individuals in applying for services such as SNAP, LiHEAP, Child Care Assistance, etc. The remaining funds would be used to assist in paying the startup costs of this project.



Community Action Agency of Siouxland

Serving: Woodbury County



Community Action Agency of Siouxland serves approximately 16,000 people a year in Woodbury County, providing multiple programs for residents with a low income. The current building that houses the administrative offices for Community Action Agency of Siouxland was previously operated as Cooper School which was built in 1880 and last revamped in 1934. The agency has occupied this building since 1981. The current state of the building is beyond repair with crumbling walls, inadequate heating and cooling system, limited space for staff and

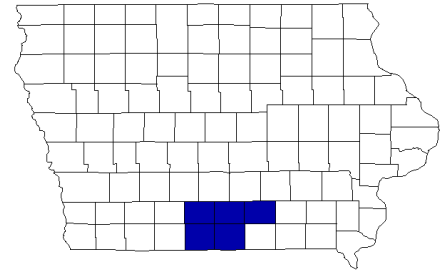
inadequate accessibility for those with disabilities. In 2014 the basement flooded and can no longer be used for offices. The rapidly declining condition of the building makes relocation to a new site imperative. The agency is currently raising funds to co-locate with other non-profits. Relocation can bring Community Action Agency of Siouxland to the area. An infrastructure allocation of \$100,000 will be a tremendous benefit in leveraging local donations and grant funds to raise the needed funds to purchase and prepare the section of the building to house the administrative offices of the Community Action Agency of Siouxland and its 130 employees.

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South Central Iowa Community Action Program (SCICAP)

Serving: Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Monroe and Wayne Counties

SCICAP has an administration office in Chariton and outreach offices located in Leon, Corydon, Osceola, Chariton and Alba. The agency has two priority needs related to infrastructure. First is to secure a new facility to consolidate offices in Leon that would house all SCICAP programs and expand and update the food pantry. Data collected through a local community needs assessment shows a high need for increased services in Decatur County. Estimated cost for this priority is \$85,000. The remaining \$15,000 would be used for an upgrade to the agency phone system. These improvements will have a positive impact on SCICAP for many years to come.



Iowa Community Action Association (ICAA)

Serving all 99 counties through the 17 member agencies

ICAA is partnering with Progress for Solutions to implement The Benefit Bank here in Iowa. This program is an online benefit application process and tax assistance and filing service. This combination of services and functions is tailored to meet the needs of Iowa residents. It is a “free to clients” service that operates through trusted staff and volunteers from local entities that are trained to be Benefit Bank Counselors. A great advantage of The Benefit Bank is the streamlined eligibility and/or application questions that are asked only once and responses are populated for all the work supports, public benefits and tax credits due to the applicants. The Benefit Bank is an excellent example of how a private-public partnership can work in Iowa. ICAA’s request of \$100,000 will be used to match other private donations to complete the design and initial implementation of the Benefit Bank here in Iowa.

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